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ant projected riparian commission of 1883 and the regulation then proposed. He does not refer to the part played by the Danube in the Russo-Turk War of 1876, or to the Treaty of San Stefano, and merely mentions the Treaty of Berlin. He does not continue his narrative through the World War.

The most valuable part of the book is that referring to the Austrian Steam Navigation Company and the extracts from various Austrian documents, and from books not easily obtainable in the United States. The author promises a detailed statement of the Danube history from 1856 to the present date. At present the Austrian Government has opened its archives freely, so that it is to be hoped that he will have an opportunity to continue his work in Vienna, where no doubt much important information respecting Austrian policy is now available.

The work would have been more valuable if the author had always cited his authorities. This is especially the case in respect to the Austrian documents used (pp. 57, 70, 71, 72). German books should always have been referred to by their German titles, not by English translations of those titles (pp. 76, 107), but there is no objection to annexing a translation, as is done in a note on page 130.

J. P. CHAMBERLAIN

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Prices and Price Control in Great Britain and the United States during the War.

By Simon Litman. Preliminary Economic Studies of the War by the Carnegie Endowment for International Peace. New York, Oxford University Press, 1920. pp. x, 331.

Mr. Litman's volume is divided into two parts, the first dealing with Great Britain, and the second with the United States. The familiarity of the reviewer with price control in the former country is not sufficient to permit him to make a detailed criticism of this particular portion of the volume. It is to be hoped, however, that it leaves less to be desired than does that part dealing with the United States. Mr. Litman is perhaps unfortunate in publishing his work some time after the appearance of the Garrett study of price control in the United States, made for the War Industries Board. That portion of Mr. Litman's volume dealing with the United States largely duplicates the Garrett work, and is very far from possessing the superiority of treatment which often may be said to justify duplication. The Garrett study is much more thorough, comprehensive, and scientific than is that of Mr. Litman. In part, perhaps, this is due to the brevity of the Litman study. He employs less than 150 pages to cover price control in the United States, as against over 400 with copious foot-notes by Garrett. The Garrett study, moreover, contains in fine print a huge appendix of regulations with annotations, and gives a view of price control infinitely superior to that of Mr. Litman.

Through lack of a thorough and comprehensive examination of various regulatory measures Mr. Litman's study often discusses specific regulations governing certain commodities with a complete omission of either mention or discussion of rules governing the same commodities of either equal or greater importance. This necessarily results in an incomplete and superficial picture of regulation, and also misleads the reader into the belief that the discussion in question covers all the regulatory measures, when, as a matter of fact this is not the case. It is exceedingly regrettable that a supposedly scientific treatment of prices and price control should be issued which is so superficial that it omits completely, not only discussion of, but even reference to, a very large portion of the price regulations dealing with various commodities. It is the more regrettable from the fact that the volume appears through the Carnegie Foundation. One is led to wonder whether the other economic studies of the war made, or being made, by this organization are as defective as the one under review.

Certain further comments the reviewer feels compelled to make. He has little or no sympathy with a study of price control based almost entirely on secondary sources nor with the employment of popular articles in the *Literary Digest*, *Country Gentleman*, *The Forum*, and the *New Republic* as authorities. The author's large and at times exclusive employment of secondary sources for information tends to emphasize his failure to examine more than superficially the available source of material. For instance, there is practically no reference to any Food Administration regulation, except through secondary sources, although these regulations would make a volume twice as large as Mr. Litman's.

The whole study, at least so far as the United States is concerned, is so incomplete and unscientific that the reader necessarily will obtain a misleading and inaccurate idea of price control in the United States.

W. H. S. STEVENS.

Washington, D. C.

Uniform State Laws in the United States, Annotated. By Charles Thaddeus Terry. New York, Baker, Voorhis & Co., 1920. pp. xi, 688.

This book is published under the auspices and for the purposes of the National Conference of Commissioners on Uniform State Laws. The twenty-three uniform statutes drafted and recommended by the commissioners before 1919 are arranged in chronological order beginning with the Uniform Acknowledgments of Written Instruments Act of 1892 and ending with the Uniform Fraudulent Conveyance Act of 1918. To each act is prefixed a list of the states which have adopted it. The book is thus a record of the achievement of the commissioners.

But it is a semi-official record. Its semi-official character explains the reticence and perfunctoriness of the notes introducing each act. They contain only the briefest and most formal statement of the histories of the acts. No reference is made to the existing and almost indispensable tools for their study. For instance there is no mention of the 1,300 pages of commentary on the Uniform Sales Act by its draftsman, Professor Samuel Williston, and no reference to the annotated edition of the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law by its draftsman John J. Crawford, or to the invaluable edition by Professor J. D. Brannan. The notes of the draftsmen originally appended to the sections of the acts are not printed. In the case of the Sales Act, the Partnership Act, the Bills of Lading Act, the Warehouse Receipts Act and the Stock Transfer Act, these notes are of considerable value.

Its semi-official character also explains the failure to distinguish the important from the unimportant, the useful from the useless, manifested in the rigid adherence to the artificially symmetrical plan of treating in the same mode all the acts from the Negotiable Instruments Law, which is in force in almost every American jurisdiction, to the Uniform Flag Act of 1917, which has not yet tempted the keen but fastidious appetites of the states for ceremonial patriotism. One hundred and eighty-four pages, or nearly one-fourth, of the book is devoted to the text of the Uniform Negotiable Instruments Law and the citation of cases decided under it. Even if the page after page of citations were arranged under headings giving some indication of the points involved in the cases, the whole would be a work of supererogation after Professor Brannan's edition. As it stands, the enormous collection of cases is nearly useless. On the other hand, the collection of the few cases decided under the Partnership Act, which are not collected elsewhere, is useful, for the absence of guides is not an inconvenience. In the case of the Sales Act the collection of cases is needed, but the absence of headings reduces it to a minimum of utility. But to the semi-official editor whose authentic criterion of value must needs be official approval, each of the acts by virtue of its recommendation by the commissioners is of equal rank and importance with the others and is therefore justly entitled to the same treatment.